

Message Text

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ACTION SIL-01

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6910

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FOR S/IL GOOD AND EA/RA HARRIS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, JA, OEXC, EAIR
SUBJECT: AFL-CIO-DOMEI ANNUAL TALKS

1. DOMEI INTERNATIONAL BUREAU DIRECTOR AIHARA INFORMED
LABATT APR. 12 THAT NINE-MEMBER DOMEI DELEGATION, HEADED BY
CHAIRMAN AMAIKE, NOW PLANNING TO ARRIVE WASHINGTON SATURDAY,
MAY 14, FOR ANNUAL MEETING WITH AFL-CIO LEADERSHIP.

2. AIHARA SAID THAT AMAIKE, IN APRIL 5 LETTER TO AFL-CIO
PRESIDENT MEANY, HAS PROPOSED FOLLOWING AGENDA ITEMS FOR
TALKS BEGINNING MAY 16; A) PROBLEM OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND
INFLATION, B) US-JAPAN BILATERAL TRADE ISSUES, C) 200-MILE
EXCLUSIVE FISHERIES ZONE, D) ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES,
E) GENERAL ASIAN POLITICAL SITUATION, F) WORLDWIDE POLITI-
CAL DEVELOPMENTS AND THEIR EFFECT ON TRADE UNIONS,
G) NORTHERN TERRITORIES (I.E., JAPAN'S CLAIM TO SOVIET
HELD ISLANDS), H) EFFORTS BY AFL-CIO AND DOMEI TO
COOPERATE IN DEVELOPMENT OF FREE TRADE UNIONS IN ASIA
AND I) ILO AND OTHER UN SPECIALIZED AGENCIES. ACCORDING
TO AIHARA, DOMEI INTERESTED IN DISCUSSING AT LENGTH
ISSUES B, C, D, H AND I AND PARTICULARLY CONCERNED
ABOUT ITEM H (SEPTTEL). IN ADDITION, DOMEI WISHES TO
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EXPLAIN TO AFL-CIO OUTSIDE OF FORMAL AGENDA SIGNIFI-
CANCE TO JAPAN OF CURRENT BILATERAL CIVIL AIR NEGO-
TIATIONS AND FOR THAT REASON RECENTLY DECIDED INCLUDE
PRESIDENT KATSUMI UTAGAWA OF DOMEI-AFFILIATED JAPAN
AIR LINES WORKERS UNION IN DELEGATION. (DOMEI LEADER-
SHIP HOPES UTAGAWA CAN ALSO CALL ON APPROPRIATE
USG OFFICIAL TO OBTAIN BETTER "UNDERSTANDING" OF US

POSITION.)

3. AIHARA SAID THAT SINCE MEETING TAKING PLACE IN WASHINGTON, DOMEI EXPECTS AFL-CIO WILL PREPARE FIRST DRAFT OF FINAL COMMUNIQUE BUT DELEGATION WILL ARRIVE WITH SUGGESTED LANGUAGE OF ITS OWN ON ITEMS OF PARTICULAR INTEREST.

4. DOMEI HOPES AFL-CIO WILL RESERVE ONE SUITE, ONE DOUBLE AND SEVEN SINGLES FOR SIX NIGHTS BEGINNING MAY 14 AT STATLER HILTON. DOMEI DELEGATION PLANNING TO DEPART WASHINGTON FOR TOKYO MAY 20 ABOUT COULD REMAIN UP TO TWO ADDITIONAL DAYS IF CIRCUMSTANCES WARRANT. DURING WASHINGTON STAY, AMAIKE LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING AGAIN WITH UNDER SECRETARY OF LABOR BROWN WHO CALLED ON HIM IN TOKYO TWO WEEKS AGO.

5. IN ADDITION TO AMAIKE, AIHARA AND UTAGAWA, DELEGATION WILL INCLUDE DOMEI VICE PRESIDENTS ICHIRO SHIOJI (AUTO WORKERS PRES), KOJI MURAKAMI (SEAMEN'S UNION PRESIDENT) AND MASAKAZU BANDO (NATIONAL RAILWAY UNION-TETSURO-PRESIDENT) AS WELL AS DOMEI SECRETARY-GENERAL KAZUO MAEKAWA, MEAL WORKERS SEC GEN IWAO FUJIWARA AND AUTO WORKERS INTERNATIONAL DEPT. DEPUTY DIRECTOR NAOTAKE KAIHARA.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: AIHARA ASKED IF DEPARTMENT COULD AGAIN SUPPLY INTERPRETER FOR MEETINGS. GIVEN GREAT IMPORTANCE THESE ANNUAL TALKS TO OVERALL US-JAPAN RELATIONSHIP, EMBASSY STRONGLY SUPPORTS THIS REQUEST.
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WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE YOUR RECONFIRMING WITH AFL-CIO INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DIRECTOR ERNIE LEE THAT AFL-CIO FINDS SATISFACTORY DELEGATION'S ARRIVAL DATE AND IS ABLE TO OBTAIN HOTEL RESERVATIONS FOR MAY 14-20. IN ADDITION, IF TIME PERMITS AND AFL-CIO HAS NO OBJECTION, RECOMMEND THAT APPOINTMENT FOR UTAGAWA BE MADE WITH EB/OA/AN BROWN OR OTHER APPROPRIATE USG OFFICIAL FOR EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON US POSITION.
SHOESMITH

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